(d) the targeted rate of growth of power generation and achievement during 1996-97; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to accelerate the power generation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The energy and peaking shortage in the country during the period April, 1996 to January, 1997 was 11.1% and 17% respectively. The energy and peaking shortage of the States in Northern and Southern region for the corresponding period are given below:

Region/State	*Energy Shortage %*	*Peaking Shortage (%)*
Northern Region	*11.1*	*17.0*
Chandigarh	0.1	0.0
Delhi	2.5	7.0
Haryana	4.7	15.9
M.P.	1.0	1.9
J&K	18.1	17.1
Punjab	1.8	8.1
Rajasthan	6.1	10.1
U.P.	13.3	20.1
Southern Region	20.5	20.1
Andhra Pradesh	22.1	23.6
Karnataka	26.1	22.0
Kerala	23.2	24.0
Tamil Nadu	14.1	16.3

(b) and (c) The growth in power generation during 1995-96 and April-December, 1996 over the corresponding period of previous years was 8.3% and 3.5% respectively. The main reason for decline in growth rate of power generation during the current year is fall in hydel power generation.

(d) During April-December, 1996 power generation in the country was 291.5 BU compared to power generation of 281.6 BU during April-December, 1995 which represent a growth rate of 3.6% against the target rate of growth of 5.1% fixed for 1996-97.

(e) Amongst the measures undertaken for increasing power generation are higher utilisation of installed capacity reducing auxiliary power consumption, modernisation and uprating of existing power stations and initiating schemes for reducing transmission and distribution losses.

Oil Wells in Nagaland

830. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Companies in Nagaland have been unable to resume its work;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the companies are likely to resume its operation in near future; and

(d) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) ONGC has not been able to resume its operations in Nagaland.

(b) ONGC's drilling operations had to be stopped due to insurgency related problems at various locations in Nagaland from time to time and the subsequent direction of the State Government. This situation has not changed.

(c) and (d) ONGC will be able to resume its operations only if so advised by the Govt. of Nagaland and if the State Govt. also agrees to provide adequate security cover to ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of ONGC.

Setting up of Hydro-Electric Power Project at Meke Datli

831. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal to the Union Government for setting up of a hydro electric power project on the cauvery basin near "Meke Datli"; and

(b) if so, the time by which the centre is expected to clear this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal to set up Mekedatu hydroelectric project, in Mysore district with an eventual capacity of 360 MW. The clearance to the project is dependent upon resolution of inter/state dispute on sharing of Cauvery Waters which is under adjudication before the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal.

Infrastructural Facilities in Assam

832. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project is under consideration of the Government for expansion of infrastructure and public amenities in major cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether any talks have been held with some international agencies for getting funds for this project; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be cleared